

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 OES-02 IO-04 EB-04 IGA-01

AGR-05 PC-01 USIA-06 DODE-00 INT-05 COME-00 SWF-01

NEA-06 /053 W

----- 088420

R 020630Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9206

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

RUEHCKGXAMEMBASSY LOME 1557

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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PARIS FOR HELMAN ROME FOR SKILES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID NG

SUBJECT: DONORS REVIEW OF EMERGENCY RELIEF ACTIVITIES NIGER

REF: NIAMEY 3630 (NOTAL)

1. AT INITIATIVE OF UNDP REP ROTIVAL (AND SOME PRODDING BY EMBASSY)  
INFORMAL MEETING OF MAJOR DONORS HELD EVENING OCTOBER 31  
FOR GENERAL STOCK TAKING OF EMERGENCY DROUGHT RELIEF  
ACTIVITIES. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED EMBASSY AND/OR AID REPS  
FROM US, FRANCE, GERMANY, FED, INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, UNICEF  
AND WFP.

2. FOLLOWING EMERGED:

A. OSRO TECHNICAL MISSION OF FIVE MEMBERS ARRIVING

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NIAMEY NOVEMBER 7 AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY MULTI-DONOR

MISSION NOVEMBER 20 WHICH EXPECTED STAY ABOUT FOUR OR FIVE DAYS AND THEN PROCEED OUAGA.

B. DONORS ARE ABOUT OUT OF FOOD DELIVERY BUSINESS FOR 1973-74 CROP YEAR. ACCORDING TO LATEST DATA, OF ABOUT 207,000 TONS PLEDGED ALL BUT ABOUT 36,000 TONS ARE IN COUNTRY AND LATTER IS ON ITS WAY.

C. PRELIMINARY HARVEST ESTIMATES ARE ENCOURAGING WITH TALK OF ONE MILLION TONS. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME BAD SPOTS AND WORRISOME CLOUD ON HORIZON IS GROWING ESTIMATES OF SUBSTANTIAL INSECT DAMAGE, ESPECIALLY IN THOSE AREAS WHERE RAINFALL AND CROP PRODUCTION WERE GOOD. LOSSES IN THESE AREAS MAY RUN AS HIGH AS 30 PCNT. ROTIVAL SAID GON HAS ASKED UNDP FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN TACKLING INSECT DAMAGE AND NOTED USG ALSO LOOKING INTO MATTER (NIAMEY 3630).

D. ACUTE SHORTAGE OF WAREHOUSING APPEARS TO BE DEVELOPING. TOTAL CAPACITY NOW ESTIMATED AT 34,000 TONS INCLUDING USAID AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION THIS YEAR AGAINST A POSSIBLE STORAGE REQUIREMENT OF OVER 100,000 TONS IN NEXT MONTH OR SO. STOCKS IN WAREHOUSES ARE BUILDING UP AS FOOD DELIVERIES FROM ABROAD CONTINUE TO ARRIVE AND FOOD DISTRIBUTION SLOWS DOWN. COMMENT: DURING VISIT TO TAHOUA OCTOBER 30 USAID REP NOTED THAT AID WAREHOUSE FULL AND SEVERAL THOUSAND TONS STORED OUTDOORS UNDER COVER. END COMMENT. GON ALSO ANTICIPATES REASONABLY GOOD RESPONSE FROM FARMERS TO ITS OFFER OF 25 CFA PER KILO OF MILLET. COTTON, COW PEA AND DATE CROPS ALSO REQUIRE STORAGE. IT WAS AGREED DONORS NEEDED MORE PRECISE DATA ABOUT SITUATION AND SHOULD CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF SECURE OUTDOOR STORAGE UNTIL NEXT RAINY SEASON.

E. RED CROSS REP REPORTED THAT UNITS ASSIGNED TO INTERIOR ARE DESCRIBING HEALTH SITUATION AS "NEARLY NORMAL". TEAMS ARE CONCENTRATING ON STATISTICAL SURVEYS AND FIELD TRIPS TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH FARMERS AND NOMADS WHO HAVE LEFT CAMPS. AT SAME TIME, MALNUTRITION REMAINS PROBLEM AND ON BASIS OF PAST EXPERIENCE MEASLES CAN BE EXPECTED IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY.

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F. GON NOW HAS INVENTORY OF ABOUT 110 FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE TRUCKS, NOT INCLUDING US-FINANCED BERLIET TRUCKS STILL TO BE DELIVERED FROM MOROCCO AND GERMAN TRUCKS EXPECTED SHORTLY. ROTIVAL EXPRESSED VIEW THIS FLEET SHOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR GON PURPOSES IN FOOD DISTRIBUTION NEXT YEAR PROVIDED VEHICLES PROPERLY MAINTAINED. UNDP IS CONSIDERING MAINTENANCE PROGRAM AND HE ASKED FOR

DONOR SUPPORT FOR UNDP EFFORTS TO HAVE GON ADHERE TO THIS PROGRAM.

3. GENERAL CONSENSUS WAS THAT SUCH MEETINGS WERE USEFUL AND SHOULD BE SCHEDULED PERIODICALLY AS INFORMAL GATHERINGS SO THAT GON WOULD NOT FEEL DONORS WERE GANGING UP.HECK

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